

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 10, 2005 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 25, and 26 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-35 are currently pending in the Office Action and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7, 13-17, 22-29, and 35 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,850,542 (hereinafter '542) in view of Mangin (U.S. Patent No. 6,704,280). Claims 6, 10, 11, 20, 21, 32, and 33 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,850,542 (hereinafter '542) in view of Mangin further in view of Dreyer (U.S. Patent No. 6,098,103).

A terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) is submitted herewith. Therefore, the above rejections of claims 1-5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13-17, 20, 21, 22-29, 32, 33, and 35 is rendered moot. Applicants respectfully submit that the submission of the terminal disclaimer attached hereto places claims 1-5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13-17, 20, 21, 22-29, 32, 33, and 35 in condition for allowance.

The Office Action indicated that claims 8, 9, 12, 18, 19, 30, 31, and 34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1, 14, and 24, upon which claims 8, 9, 12, 18, 19, 30, 31, and 34 are dependent, should be withdrawn. Consequently, all of currently pending claims 1-35 are in condition for allowance and Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Terminal Disclaimer